

**RUMSON RECREATION COMMISSION
JANUARY 16, 2013
MINUTES**

Attendance

Chairman Lembeck called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The following members were present: Lembeck, Chandler, Dengler, McGinty, Shanley. Absent: Bavuso, MacGillis

Also present: Sarah Orsay, Recreation Director, John Hird, former Recreation Director

Public Portion

No members of the public were present.

Approval of Minutes

The December minutes had not yet been distributed, so will be reviewed at March Commission meeting.

Chairman's Announcements

Chairman Lembeck welcomed Kerry Chandler as a new member to the Recreation Commission and announced that Greg McGillis will also be joining as a Commissioner, both appointed by the Mayor with term expiration dates of 12/31/2016.

Chairman Lembeck then introduced Sarah Orsay as the new Director of Parks and Recreation, hired on January 9, 2013. Ms. Orsay spoke about her background, experience and family.

Director's Report

Parks

Meadow Ridge – The new dugouts for Meadow Ridge South and Meadow Ridge West are to be completed by March 1. The Commission discussed core airification for MRE & MRC. Additional turf blankets should be here within two – three weeks. Baseball and Lacrosse, as spring sports, will receive priority in field allocation over travel soccer.

Riverside Park – The storm debris has been cleared from Riverside, but DPW indicated that the reeds will grow back. The Commission discussed possible longer-term beautification and passive recreation area projects for RSD in the underutilized riverfront area.

First raised in the December meeting, further discussion ensued as to the best way to recondition the fields, including hiring a professional company, such as the ones that condition golf courses, to help maintain the turf. John Hird suggested the Commission also consider what kind of maintenance would be involved given that youth recreation fields take a lot more abuse than a golf course. This topic will be further investigated in the coming months.

Martello Field – Commission will reintroduce turf project to Mayor and Council.

Recreation

Basketball – The Recreation basketball practices, games and clinics are on-going. Ms. Orsay noted that the total enrollment of 567 participants was down 35 participants from last year, although still up from 2010-11 season. The Recreation Travel Basketball enrollment is up by 16 participants. She suggested the drop in enrollment could be due in part to storm-related displacements.

Ms. Orsay informed the Commission that restricted access to evening and weekend events at Forrestdale School had been an issue and that she had received numerous parent complaints. On January 15, Superintendent of Schools, Maryrose Caulfield-Sloan, and the Board of Education officially informed Rumson Recreation that school doors will be locked at night and on weekends and it is up to the facility user to assign someone to monitor the door. After discussion with Dr. Caulfield-Sloan and, separately, Borough Administrator Tom Rogers, Ms. Orsay then sent a note to all Recreation Basketball coaches informing them of the Superintendent's decision, requested that they forward the note to team parents, and suggested parents volunteer to man the door during practice and game times.

Following up on Mr. McGinty December suggestion of having a Rec league for high-schoolers, Mr. Shanley mentioned he thought next year he could free up two evenings in Forrestdale from the travel program and the use of Rumson Country Day's gym was mentioned as a possibility.

Travel Baseball – Todd Herman has been looking into a 7U team per Mr. Hird's suggestion last December, and has received some interest from other towns. However, it would be lower key than a USABL team, with only one practice and one game a week. Frank Lauria has requested to run an 8U team, and Brad Sackle would like to run a 10U team. The coach of the 12U team is undecided if he will continue to coach it. A parent had suggested two 10U teams if there were enough interest and the Commission approved the concept of an A&B team as long as they both comply with Rumson Recreation guidelines.

Baseball – Registrations are coming in and are due Friday, January 25, 2013. Ms. Orsay will attend the EMSA meeting on Thursday, January 17th and will set up the MAC meeting to kick off softball.

Ms. Orsay requested slightly altering the T-shirt and cap design for the younger players, which was approved. Ms. Orsay also requested ordering designated Coaches' shirts, but this was rejected unanimously by the Commission, feeling that Coaches would not wear them.

Lacrosse – Registrations for Girls' Lacrosse and Clinic are due Friday, January 25, 2013. Ms. Orsay will be bidding out uniforms and equipment in the next week.

Crew - Winter Conditioning begins on Monday, January 21, 2013. Currently, there are 29 high schoolers registered, and 5 women for Masters Conditioning. We have received inquiries for 8th graders and will make that decision based on the instructor's recommendation, space and availability after the session begins.

Spring Crew registration is underway and the deadline is February 8, 2013. Ms. Orsay will seek painting quotes for the three launches and rowing barge.

Mr. Hird had ordered new docks and dock connectors, which should be delivered by March 1.

Soccer – We are still missing approximately 50 jerseys due to the truncated season and chaos resulting from the storm. Ms. Orsay has followed up with coaches again and Mr. Hird estimates we will probably get about 25 back ultimately, as many were lost in the storm.

Mr. Shanley suggested we host a clinic in town to get youth soccer referees certified. Ms. Orsay will follow up.

Camps – Ms. Orsay sought approval for the camp program, including three new programs: Track Camp, Jersey Premier Soccer camp to replace YES Soccer Camp, and US Sports Soccer for ages 3-5 years. Mr. Shanley made a motion to approve, Mr. McGinty seconded the motion and the Commission unanimously approved all camps, assuming they fit into Recreation guidelines:

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|---------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| • Bulldog Basketball camp | • Multi Sports Camp | • RFH Basketball Camp |
| • Softball Camp | • Soccer Tots | • Wrestling Camp |
| • Football Camp | • USB Soccer | • Chess Camp |
| • Golf Camp | • US Sports Soccer (new) | • Track Camp (new) |
| • Lacrosse Academy | • Tennis Camp | • Jersey Premier Soccer Camp (new) |
| • Learn-to Row Camp | • Volley Ball Camp | |

Positive Coaching Alliance (“PCA”) – Ms. Orsay will be promoting to Baseball coaches the 10 on-line seats Recreation purchased.

Other

Appropriation - Ms. Orsay indicated that the Town’s \$10,000 annual appropriation had been requested and received, although not yet reflected on Finance Report.

Stand Up Paddle (“SUP”) Event – Discussion and planning for the proposed SUP summer fundraising event spearheaded by Rumson resident Harris Davis, brought up to the Commission in December by Mr. Hird, is on-going. Davis is partnering with Paddle with a Purpose and they are tentatively looking at Sunday, July 21, 2013 at Victory Park.

St. Patrick’s Day Parade – Ms. Orsay was approached by Rumson resident and Head of St. Patty’s Day Committee, Peter Hogan, to enlist the support and participation of Rumson Recreation in the first annual St. Patty’s Day parade on Sunday, March 13, at 1pm. Mr. Hogan would like Rumson Recreation to help get the word out and invite the children to march in the parade. The Commission was amenable to this and discussions and ideas are on-going.

The Commission instructed Ms. Orsay to confirm that the SUP event and St. Patty’s Day parade has been reviewed by the Mayor and Council for their approval. If all is approved by Mayor and Council then Rumson Recreation will approve it’s support.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Lembeck reported on the current expenses and revenues for the past month. Available funds listed total approximately \$152,000, however, \$38,000 will be deducted from this to pay for improvements and dugouts to Meadow Ridge West, offset by a \$10,000 increase from the town appropriation, also not yet recorded. Thus actual available funds are approximately \$124,000.

The Commission discussed possible projects such as the beautification of RSD, the Martello turf project and the Defibrillator installation project.

Mr. Dengler requested the Commission be shown more detail in the Treasurer's report going forward.

Travel Soccer

Mr. McGinty indicated that there is a MOSA meeting in two weeks and that the fields and schedules need to be on-line by the end of February. Arlene Mulligan will help with scheduling. Mr. McGinty would like to offer a Jersey Premier Soccer Camp run by Jordan Tant to the travel soccer players and the funds for this will come out of the Travel Soccer budget. Mr. Shanley raised the motion, Mr. Dengler seconded it, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Shanley discussed having a tournament to begin the season, which the Mulligans may help organize. The issue will be field space, but perhaps a Saturday afternoon would work.

Lacrosse

Mr. Lembeck asked Ms. Chandler to take over responsibility for reporting on Lacrosse and Ms. Chandler agreed. Ms. Chandler said that travel lacrosse would like to start tryouts for U13 and U15 on Saturday, March 2, 2013 and we need to send flyers out.

Old Business

Martello Field – the Commission continued discussion of the need for replacing the grass with turf, including possible revenue sources to fund project (i.e., \$25,000 from Recreation, \$25,000 from American Youth Football fundraiser. It was decided to reintroduce this project to Mayor and Council. Ms. Orsay to follow up with Borough Administrator Tom Rogers in mid-February.

Defibrillators – Ms. Orsay to continue Mr. Hird's investigation into available grant money to offset cost of AED Defibrillator at Meadow Ridge, located in the Center near the restrooms as this would require electricity and phone line.

New Business

CPR/First Aid Refresher Course – Mr. Shanley suggested we speak to the EMS about leading a CPR/First Aid Refresher Course for Rumson Recreation coaches and also residents, space permitting. He suggested we could make it a fundraiser for the AED Defibrillators.

Leaf Site – Mr. Shanley asked if we could put fields in the old leaf site in Rumson at the south end of Buena Vista Avenue. Mr. Lembeck said he thought they were protected wetlands but asked Ms. Orsay to confirm with Mr. Rogers.

The session ended at 8.50pm and the meeting was adjourned.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: March 20, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

**Sarah Orsay
Director of Parks & Recreation
Borough of Rumson**